

November 14, 2002

Bill Tippetts  
California Department of Fish and Game  
4949 Viewridge Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92123

Daniel Marquez  
Permit Coordinator  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Carlsbad Field Office  
6010 Hidden Valley Road  
Carlsbad, CA 92009

RE: Kelly Ranch Habitat Conservation Area 2002 Annual Report

Dear Mr. Tippetts and Mr. Marquez:

In March of 2002, the Center for Natural Lands Management (Center) was deeded title and received endowment funds for the Kelly Ranch Habitat Conservation Area (Kelly Ranch). Kelly Ranch is located northeast of the intersection of Faraday Avenue and Canon Road, in the City of Carlsbad, California (Figures 1-3) and has about 55 acres of dedicated natural open space which consists of mostly Diegan coastal sage scrub and southern maritime chaparral.

As part of our management requirements for Kelly Ranch, the Center reports annually its management activities to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). The Centers 2002 fiscal year was from October 1 to September 31. This letter represent the first year annual report for Kelly Ranch which includes management activities conducted from March to September 31, 2002.

At the time that the Center was deeded title to the property, the developer of the Kelly Ranch Development (Development) began grading operations. As you can see by the attached figures, Kelly Ranch is made up of several parcels surrounded by the Development. The development activities of the Development and Canon Road made our on-site management very difficult. Due to the high level of grading activities, and the danger of being near these activities, we were not able to access most of the site since we received title to the property. In addition, the excessive noise levels would have made certain activities, such as avian monitoring difficult, if not impossible. Therefore, only basic on-site activities occurred during 2002.

During the 2002 fiscal year, the Preserve Manager (Markus Spiegelberg) visited the site about every two to six weeks for about 1 to 2 hours to follow the progress of development and to patrol the site (see Table 1, page 6). In addition, the Preserve Manager conducted one brief survey for coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) on the small parcel located near the Agua Hedionda Lagoon. No gnatcatchers were observed. Lastly, the Preserve Manager met with certain individuals of the Agua Hedionda Lagoon Foundation to discuss the possibility of joint public outreach programs between the two organizations.

The Center has prepared a 5-year Management Plan (Plan) for Kelly Ranch that outlines the basic goals that we have in managing this site. The Plan will be submitted to the wildlife agencies at the same time that this report is being submitted. The Plan also describes our proposed management and budget for 2002-3.

In the last several weeks (outside the 2001-2 fiscal year), development activities have slowed down a bit, and the site has become more accessible in some areas. During this time, the Center has posted the perimeter of Kelly Ranch with its "Habitat Conservation Area" signs to let the surrounding community know of the status of the Preserve. It is our intention to begin conducting more management activities by the new year, including biological surveys and non-native removal. Please review the Management Plan for more details.

If you have any question or comments, please call or email me ([m Spiegelberg@cnlm.org](mailto:m Spiegelberg@cnlm.org), 619 295-4953).

Sincerely,

Markus Spiegelberg  
Preserve Manager  
Southern California Regional Director

**Table 1. Summary of Site Visit Activities**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Hours</b>
18-Mar-02	Patrol, site check	1.5
05-Apr-02	Patrol, meet Agua Hedionda Foundation staff	2
24-Apr-02	Meet with Agua Hedionda Foundation board of directors	2
25-Apr-02	Site visit, patrol, check for CAGN along lagoon side	3
15-May-02	Patrol	1
29-May-02	Patrol	1
20-June-02	Patrol	2
26-Aug-02	Patrol	1
27-Sep-02	Patrol	1